

TECHNICAL DEPT

# AVIATION

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*The Oldest American Aeronautical Magazine*

DECEMBER 5, 1927

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VOLUME  
XXIII

## *Special Features*

Metal Wing Spars  
The "Atlas" and "Ajax" Engines  
Navigating the Ship of the Air

NUMBER  
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President and Editor: L. D. WOODRUFF  
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Managing Editor: R. HENRY BROWN, JR.  
Editorial Editor: RICHARD M. HATCH  
Editorial Editor: ALBERT F. WYLLIE  
Editorial Editor: DAVID J. LITTLE  
Art Editor: ALBERT F. WYLLIE

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### Air Speed Indicators

PERIODICALLY THE newspapers announce that a "tail fin" plane has been developed and successfully speaking there is some truth in their statements. What is really meant is that planes can now be kept under control after they have reached their stalling speed and though they sink rapidly they will not suddenly go into a spin and they can be brought back to being steered by a comparatively gentle rudder. This control of control before stalling has been attained by proper adjustment of centers of weight to fixed surface area and by instruments on the rim and location of the control surfaces. Developments such as the Heesley Page latest planes have still further extended the possibilities of control before stalling speed. In addition to this, great success has been developed with high stalling speed and as a result it is now possible to build planes which will be flying in a level position and under apparent control but which actually are settling so fast that the world crash badly unless their forward speed was increased before they reached the ground.

Short observers with larger travel can be developed to meet these new conditions but no matter how far the development is carried airplanes will always have to have a certain amount of forward speed and falling below this speed will cause serious dangers. Various warning devices have been tried with more or less success but the air speed indicator remains the fundamental and most important aid to the pilot in determining whether he is flying at a safe speed.

Unfortunately, however, the air speed indicator has not been brought to a point where it can be absolutely relied upon. One drop of water or one fly in the pilot's eye will lead to a loss of consciousness and yet this instrument is the chief guide to the pilot in the "tail fin" plane. In view of this it seems high time to concentrate on the development of this instrument which is undoubtedly a safeguard to the modern plane.

### The Muffler Question

Occasionally some widespread action writer writes that he has been stopped from operating out of some field or lake because the neighbors had children nearby and decided that his plane made so much noise that it was a public nuisance. The aviator feels that a protest may have been done to him and to the cause of aviation and that something ought to be done to make his plane more reasonable. Unfortunately the public is not in the majority and in this case they lay the blame on the pilot. Airplanes with high speed propellers can perhaps never be made entirely quiet but such can be done and in certain places it may be deemed the nuisance and ultimately airplanes will be forced out as automobiles have been quieted. The

answer that is done the better for it will be a serious matter if those who do not fly are to consider airplanes a nuisance because of their noise. Already there has been considerable objection to airports on the ground that they injure the value of neighboring residences and unless mufflers or long exhaust pipes are put on planes this impression will gain a widespread hold.

### The Washington Conference

THERE ARE going on this week at Washington, D. C., a series of conferences which are of the greatest importance to the progress of civil aviation. They are being held under the auspices of the aeronautics branch of the Department of Commerce and the object is to discuss what has been learned during the past year and to lay out plans for what will be done during the coming year. As far as the general public is concerned there will probably be nothing very spectacular about the conferences, but to those who are really aware of what is going on in the world of the aeronautics industry they are of paramount interest.

During the past year the Department has been building up an organization which can conduct stress analysis and check details of design. They have also built up a personnel for the inspection of airports and the licensing of pilots. The questions before the conferences this year will deal with the details of the rules under which this organization will operate, but underlying it all will be a broader discussion of whether it is for the best interests of commercial aviation to reduce the laws with greater strictness. During the latter half of the year the laws and regulations have been in actual operation but there has not been time to apply them to every case. There is a general feeling among those who know that many prohibitive types of planes have not been engineered with sufficient care. There is also a feeling that training for pilots is inadequate and that in many airports there have been violations of air traffic regulations.

How far existing regulations should be extended and how drastically they should be reduced is a question that requires real statesmanship and a broad point of view to answer properly. Yet, on the other hand, depends to a very large extent the future of American civil aviation. Our own opinion is that the Department of Commerce adopted the correct policy last year and that such drastic conferences with existing practices would be injurious to development. Unfortunately, detailed laws strictly enforced will be necessary and probably beneficial but during this year formative laws of aeronautical development it would seem when to make a few amendments for the sake of tomorrow and to avoid the greater risk of haphazard aviation by the strict adherence to those rules which seem best to us today.

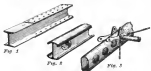
# Metal Wing Spars

## A Review of Various Types, Some of Which are New And Others that are Already in Use

By JOHN G. LEE

**M**ETAL CONSTRUCTION has been steadily growing faster both here and in Europe. Metal fastenings are practically universal in this country, and recently there has been a strong trend toward metal wings.

The problem of designing a good metal wing spar is by no means easy. This is because the wooden spar which all airplanes have two great advantages which the wooden fastenings had not—it is cheap and it is light. These advantages are fundamental. However, it has recently been found that a well designed metal spar is actually lighter than the corresponding wooden one. It is not cheaper, is small and



Metal is the medium for quantity production, and since we have not had quantity production until now, we have not had metal spars.

The best type of metal spar for any given airplane depends on many things. If the plane is for military use, where light weight is essential and cost secondary, an expensive construction can be employed. Whereas, in a commercial plane, where the reverse is the case, something entirely different is necessary. Again, a shop equipped to build welded steel fastenings would tend toward a welded steel spar, and a factory building duralumin wing-booms would naturally be able to build a duralumin plate girder more cheaply than something else. Size is also a factor. A deep spar must be a truss; a shallow one may be a channel, a box, or yet some other type.

The construction shown in this article were chosen more or less at random. Some are new; some have been in use by different makers throughout the country. Whenever possible credit has been given to the originator. Of the many metal spars which have been designed, there have been no less than a dozen or more different types of construction, as possible, and to standardize the development of new types and different applications.

First let us consider the very shallow spars. Probably the simplest type that has ever been developed is the extended

"I" beam shown in Fig. 1. This is a typical Curtiss "I" section made in duralumin. It is of constant section except on its length, except where the flanges are cut down at the ends, at the critical joints. This beam and the one following were suggested by the Thomas-Morse Company.

The "I" beam shown in Fig. 2 is better in that its rounded top and bottom fit the contour of the wing, and present a deeper open, particularly at the leading edge. Also, the tabs at the corners of the flanges distribute the metal when it is needed, and make a more efficient section. The stiffness of the wing adds to these spars is interesting. A box is bolted to either side of the web, and the steel stiffens the beam, being pinned to the bones by a through bolt which also carries the lift wires. Thus the loads are taken directly to the neutral axis, and the flanges are not broken. The beam shown in Fig. 3 is made of a steel tube, welded to a duralumin plate, and reinforced by several radial ribs. A channel or a hollow cone would be equally satisfactory.

This type of beam is heavy when it is made deep. In addition, at the present time, the extrusion process does not permit of making sections more than 6 in. deep, or thereabouts, and the heat treating facilities seldom can take a



beam more than 34 ft. long. Its use is therefore somewhat limited. Beams, whose stress is mainly compressive and not bending, such as cantilever beams, which are really all spars, may use this construction to advantage. Compression and shear web beams have been made

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and a round steel tubing, for this very reason, that they are actually stronger than beams. The beam made in Fig. 5 is made of oval steel tubing, with lightning holes. It is so curved to bending that a round tube, and can take compression almost as well. The steel fitting shown in its center. The oval plates, struts, and wire girders are taken by a pair of plates, one on either side of the spar. The drag

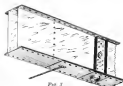


Fig. 5

and power through both plates and through the spar, and a nut and a pin and collar (not shown) on the back side. The drag wires pull from a front plate, which is fastened upon a collar which is welded to the drag strut, thus completing the assembly.

Box spars of medium depth—say to ten inches—are usually of duralumin plate construction. There is a considerable variety of types. It may be here noted, too, that in these boxes it is more difficult to build a metal spar lighter than a wooden one than it is with either the very shallow or the very deep spars.

In Fig. 6 is shown a spar made entirely of duralumin channels with channel ironing. The web members are all

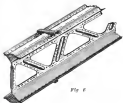


Fig. 6

aligned, and are riveted both to the sides and to the backs of the flange channels, without the use of gusset plates. This spar may be readily expanded and reinforced, and the shape of the flange members changed from plate to plate at the load requires.

The beam in Fig. 7 is of the box type, composed of two channel web members back to back, with flat cover-plates. The web members are kept from buckling by small internal bracing, varying in length. The cover-plates are of varying width, reinforced by additional plates at the front panel.

The steel fitting shown consists of a plate from which a cap has been formed, which is riveted to the cover-plate of the spar, thus making a socket for the strut. The left wire is carried through a hole in the cover-plate to a pin located on the control axis.

One difficulty with beams of this type is that flat plates are particularly subject to local crushing. This can be avoided by the use of large spaced lightning holes in the web, and by length-wise ribs or "bands" in the cover-plates.

The beam shown in Fig. 8, which was developed by the Naval Aircraft Factory, is a good example. Here the two web plates are made from duralumin channels, each that

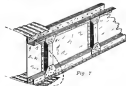


Fig. 7

chain assembled they form a Warren truss. The cover-plates are curved, thus eliminating the crushing tendency, and at the same time giving the flange a hollow construction. The thickness of the web and cover-plates vary as the stress requires. Probably the greatest objection to this particular beam is the amount of local riveting required. The cover-plates could be riveted on by machine, but the web diagonals require hand work.

In all metal beams one of the great difficulties is the elimination of the ribs. On the beam in Fig. 8 the ribs were made of duralumin framing, the cap-plates being channels. These cap-plates are riveted over the short channel section

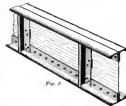


Fig. 8

which is riveted to the beam flanges. The ribs were made of three sections, leading edge, leading edge, and center, so that the ribs could be assembled. With steel beams, the ribs are brazed or welded on, after heat treatment, and the ribs are riveted to them. With duralumin the same practice is to rivet a vertical angle to the beam, and rivet the ribs to the angle.

The plate girder shown in Fig. 9 is interesting, in that

when completed all the members are closed and of hollow cross-section, which is a very efficient and a very stout construction. The spider consists of two "U" shaped flange members, assembled by a flat plate steel on one side, and strengthened by frequent vertical "H" elements riveted to the plate. The beam is intended chiefly for axial stresses, where the covering serves to close the flange members as shown in the sketch. With corrugated covering a flat or beaded plate may be riveted between the flange and the corrugated skin which adds considerably to the strength of the girder.

Fig. 8 shows another plate girder made by riveting corrugated dished members to either side of a flat web plate.



Fig. 8

Note the vertical stiffening angles to which the ribs may be attached. This construction is borrowed directly from structural steel work, and has been used by the Aeromarine Company and others. It is cheap, and lends itself to production methods, but is apt to be heavy. A very good trended spar can be made from these angles, by cutting the web plate. The stiffening angles are put in the form of a Warren truss, and fastened to the flanges by a gusset plate placed between the flange angles, exactly similar to ordinary bridge construction. Incidentally, the both angles here shown are one of the most common forms of extruded dished shapes. A surprising variety of these structural shapes has recently become available.

Frequently all spar fail by lateral buckling under test conditions, unless some provision is made to prevent it. And here for the average beam test considers the reinforcement of the ribs and drag trussing is the actual thing is considered in detail. The triangular spar shown in Fig. 9 is completely stiff laterally and resists all lateral support under test. It is made of three hollow dished members, each consisting of a flat lower chord and a rounded outer member. The

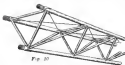


Fig. 9

three are joined together by light corrugated skin, which has been fastened to the ends and shipped between the inner chord and outer ribs and outer members. In building the beam the skin is put on the flat side in narrow strips so that it is not necessary to stretch for inside or backing up the rivets. This spar is best suited to a one piece member wing, where the only fittings are for the flange attachment,

and where the lateral and torsional strength is of less importance.

In all deep open a truss construction is used to meet satisfactory. The obvious thought is "Why not make a spider of welded steel tubing like a dished spar?" This is shown in Fig. 10. This is also a trussing, with a member at the top to take the compression, and another to take the tension. The side trusses are of the Warren type, and the top a Pratt truss, using cross tubes and tension rods. This particular spar was intended for a beam weighing about 30 lb. deep at the root, having detail drawings. The attachment fittings are shown. They consist of thick-wall threaded tubes, welded to the main beam, and right internal threads.

The great difficulty with all welded steel spars is that they cannot be heat-treated, and even when made of aluminum alloy members are apt to be heavy, especially when cold. To overcome this difficulty, Messrs. Kieffer and Buehler of McCook Field developed the open spar shown in Fig. 11. Here the flange members are made of heat-treated dished tubing, which is even more advantageous than heat-treated steel. The web members are of ordinary steel tubing welded to a small shield-like plate at each intersection with the flanges. These plates in turn are bolted to the flanges. The three attachment fitting consists of two plates bolted to the spar flange a bolt, and a backing passing through them, secured by a nut.

In Fig. 12 is shown another tubular form of dished flat steel construction. The flange members are of dished

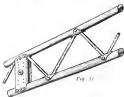


Fig. 11

heat-treated tubing, either oval or dished, and bolted to a corrugated round steel tube, fastened where the flange and web meet to form a continuous Warren truss. If web truss is fastened to the flange by a vertical bolt at right angles to the flange, the web trussing is not so stiff as the bolt, which is in place. In the right hand small detail, backing is shown applied to a steel spar. The tube is stiff and the hole pre-continuously a round steel tubing webbing is inserted, the continuous depression is thus filled out, and the tube is ready for heat-treatment. For heat treatment and straightening, the beam is assembled. In the left hand small sketch, the backing is applied to dished tubing where welding is not satisfactory. An elastic web is cut in the flange tube, and an elliptical tubular member inserted, and turned at 90 deg. to the hole, so that it will not rotate. A special washer is then placed over the hole, having two small ears which slip through the hole and tie the backing from turning. When the web is held in place, the parts are held firmly in place. The construction is at once cheap and effective.

The new elliptical tube brings out an interesting point as a member to get the corner of the spar flange as far as possible, for the further apart they are the less they compress, an elliptical tube has its center near the corner of the beam, and therefore further from the upper and lower ends. Carrying this to extremes, it is another difficulty. The outside diameter should be as large as possible, in order to prevent buckling under compression loads. This is why a tube with a small end, though less compressed, than a flat plate, is not so extended angle. The elliptical tube seems to be a perfect compromise.

Incidentally, the question is sometimes asked, "Why is aluminum tubing more efficient than steel, when both have approximately the same strength-weight ratio?" The answer is this: Since aluminum is weaker, a larger cross-sectional area of metal is required than with steel, which means for the same web thickness the dished tubes will have a larger diameter. The larger member is stiffer and will take a proportionally larger compression load without buckling, and therefore becomes the lighter of the two. Thus,

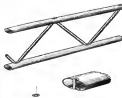


Fig. 12

aluminum has a distinct advantage over steel whenever loading or compression are concerned. Any lighter material, like aluminum, fiber, or wood, has a decided advantage over dished tubing, and would replace it except for some defect in its other properties of the material.

In the form shown in Fig. 13, Charles Ward Hall has made an effort to use of dished members. This construction is of the lightest types known, and is of particular interest for the designer because, instead of a deep spar, the beam is made up of side girders, the tube centers for spars, and gives the beam lateral stiffness. The web members are of fiber, followed by the rods to take a through bolt. The webbing rivets and spacers may or may not be riveted. At the points of maximum bending, an added tube is added to the outside of each flange for a short distance. As type of construction, although light, excellent for use in small parts and is apt to be expensive when it is carried to quantity production.

The spar shown in Fig. 14 was developed at McCook Field, and is of several purposes. The flange are made of a series of dished members, formed into an oval section and riveted together. The web trussing consists of series of dished oval dished members stamped members in the form of a "U" shape. These members are of "U" section, and have

their ends enlarged to accommodate several rivets. The whole assembly is simple, effective and should lend itself exceedingly well to production methods. A variation of this construction also from McCook Field, is to make the web members of dished tubing, flattened at the ends and riveted between the tips of the flange members. Another variation, equally

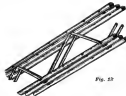


Fig. 13

good, is to join the top and bottom flanges with a flat plate, riveted between the tips, making this a plate girder with hollow flanges. A light vertical member at the rib attachment points serves to reinforce the web plate against buckling. This should prove a very cheap and efficient construction.

Fig. 15 shows the construction employed on the Ford-Stout monoplane. It is a dished Warren truss, about 30" in depth at the root and six inches at the tip. The flange members are of hollow "U" section, made by riveting together an open "U" member and a dished channel. The gusset plates are riveted on at the same level. The web members are open channels, the verticals, which are in compression, being about two feet apart. In the upper view is shown the attachment of the outer spar flange. Three members are shown in the form of a truss, and are fastened to the spar with a "U" shaped member, and a reverse plate passing over to under the spar. In the bottom view the wing stiffening fitting is shown. It comprises an "H" section heat-treated steel

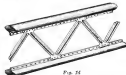


Fig. 14

deep-flange, riveted into the end of the "U" in place of the inner channel. The whole truss is reinforced by a heavy plate wrapped entirely around the spar, the upper construction forming great plates for the web members.

The Ford-Stout construction, like the dished one, is not with members, but with dished members. In both, it is necessary to rivet the covering to a hollow tubular member in final assembly, and the question is entirely open as to how the rivets are backed up. On the Ford, this is solved by the use

at a spring "dolly." The "dolly" consists of no true center rivet 5 in. long, semi-circular in section. This is placed inside the flange members, and held against the outer surface by means of springs on the flat back of the collings. The springs bear on a flat steel plate. This assembly is pulled through the flange members by a string at either end, and is brought opposite to the rivet hole. The rivet is inserted from the outside and driven by an air hammer. The inner end of the rivet bears directly against the "dolly." The separate

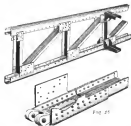


Fig. 25

hammer blows start the upper half of the "dolly" into rotation, and it pounds the inner end of the rivet until the rivet is headed up. Rivets inserted in this way are perfectly satisfactory, and are quickly driven. The great objection to them is that the dolly drives heads cannot be re-used, and the operation therefore depends on the size of the workman. The long oval hole in the wing attachment string, Fig. 15 is far the inferior of the "dolly."

There are certain ground connections as an item from this and other angles, which, like all generalities, have their exceptions. Deep spans need be treated. Medium spans may be treated, but are preferably plate braced. Shallow spans

should be single piece, such as stampings, extruded sections or the like. The lightest construction employs tubular hollow members of rounded contour. In any construction, durability will give a better span than a cheap one, and, any inspection, and simple repair all require the assistance of heavy gauge. In a word, simplicity means durability, but a simplicity does not always mean light weight.

Finally and most important, the metal shop is making a quantity production office. Its design must permit the cheap manufacture of the parts—stampings, not too small, and not so whatever it may be. Particularly the shop must permit rapid assembly with a minimum of hand work. This is the greatest field for development. Riveting machines, crimpers, and semi-automatic assembly methods must be used before we can share the lightness of the metal shop at a price we can afford to pay. The future of the metal shop is linked with quantity production, and with the development of this shop technique.

### Marketing Set of Three Pliers

A SET of three pliers in a leatherette case and called the "Aviator's Kit" has been placed on the market by the Federal Steel Products Co. of Newport, Pa. The pliers in the set have been especially designed for aircraft work, and these working around aircraft and aircraft engines. But tool is forged from the highest quality hot steel which is subjected to a special through-and-through hardening and tempering process and set to extremely accurate bending and straightening. By making the pliers from high grade material that is especially treated it has been possible, in actually designing with that end in view, to make the finished products very light in weight. This is done with no sacrifice in strength. The weight of the set of three pliers is not in only eighteen ounces. Careful design and fabrication give the advantages of making the pliers much smaller. The set can be used in close places where the ordinary pliers would be used.

One of the greatest in a general use pliers with a long, thin nose brought to a dead-end point. Its chief features are ball-fitted joints that not only work more than three times as smooth, sharp teeth and deeply rolled and grip, and is adjustable point for expanding the jaws. The length of the pliers is 7 inches. Another of the set, the "Slick" handles, are designed in a manner suitable for working in confined places. This pattern is also fitted with powerful cutters and is fully rolled at the extremity of the jaws for working a tight hold. The handles and jaws are spring tempered. The third member of the set is a pair of diagonal cutting pliers. The handles 12 inches in length and are rolled outside for better work. All three pliers are heavily skinned over upper and lower the "Vacuum Grip" handles. These handles give you a sure grip which is important in any type of work. The case is of durable leatherette and lined with felt.

### Righting the Wrong

IN A letter received recently from the Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., London, England, my attention was called to an error which appeared on page 666 of the Oct. issue of AVIATION. In an article on the propeller fitted to the Gloster Troopship plane it was stated that the Gloster-Napier engine was equipped with a Parnell-Road propeller of the type manufactured by the Parnell Aviation Co., Ltd. The correct version is that the Gloster-Napier was fitted with a Gloster propeller of design, and the propeller of the design of the design, and capable of fine adjustment in its rotation.



The Gloster-Napier "Whisk" which was fitted to correct the direction factor because of Ignition Interference

## Radio, Airplane and Engine

### The Need of Cooperation Between Airplane and Engine Builders and the Radio Engineer

By LAWRENCE A. HYLAND

Radio Engineer

#### Article Two

TO SUCCESSFULLY operate on commercial aircraft, the radio must be made an integral part of the airplane. The success of radio can be accomplished properly only when the engine manufacturer must, therefore, prepare their plans to meet the needs of radio, while the engine builder should regard his communications equipment, not as a thing set out as an important work of his service for which he has must make certain provision.

It can be stated at the outset that radio requires nothing as simple as the standard of safety, and that the success of the preparation and maintenance of the aircraft is as small as it can be negligible.

Any one who is on the ground or in the air, transmitting or receiving has two external connections. The one is the antenna thought of in the antenna, with which we are not too much concerned. Of no less importance, especially in the air, is the much neglected "ground."

The "ground" for aircraft radio purposes consists of the metal of the airplane such as the engine, tanks, wires, or the type of radio sets likely to be used in commercial aviation and frequently there is too little. The effect of a metal ground is to:

1. cause the efficiency of the radio set.
2. cause the length of the antenna which carries air waves and makes the antenna hard to handle and to set.
3. to the radio set directional in its action. (This is a characteristic feature should not be confused with a desirable type used for direction finding purposes.)

To ensure that the antenna "ground" will be available the airplane builder should take pains to bond properly all the metal structure of the plane.

Building is, at the present time, largely a matter of experience. Manufacturers of commercial aircraft make little or no effort to have a good electrical connection between all major metal parts and wires. Some military jobs go to this effect built and their specifications require detached wires on a wing tip to be bonded with the frame of the ship.

#### Continuous Metallic Network Necessary

There is, of course, a reasonable and economical means. Good radio bonding requires, mostly, that there be electrical contact between the major parts of the metal structure of the airplane. It is not necessary to make any special provision for the connection of the wire running of the wings and fuselage other than to ensure that the wires are attached to metal fittings throughout so that from wing tip to wing tip and from nose to tail there is a continuous metallic network. The large connecting surfaces within the fuselage, however, deserve particular treatment. It is usual to place distance an actual contact between the engine, gas tank, gas line, and fuselage because gasoline, rather than oil and fuel may give electrical isolation to considerable lengths of piping or to the tanks.

Wherever there is a thin water under a skin, or a rubber hose connection or a gas line there should be a small flexible copper braid jumper across these doubtful joints. If the engine is mounted on a wooden frame a copper strip should be securely attached to the engine and to any metal fitting which is a part of the wire running of the fuselage. Such a tank and oil tank should have one or cover large welded or riveted to the tank from which a copper strip can be led to make secure contact with some of the metal structure of the engine or fuselage.

It should be noted in passing that correct bonding of the

### Not Much Difference



The change in Curtiss design to strictly standardized by the change from the old 1931 Curtiss "Pulsar" and the new Curtiss A-3 "Pulsar" attack plane. The A-3 is fitted with air machine guns, two of which are fitted in the bottom wings, and is now being tested by the U. S. Army Air Corps.



needed in the receiver in order that the effects may be reduced to a minimum. It is obvious that radio equipment to work under such conditions should not be of let or miss type with little thought given to certain basic features which have proved of value after years of tests.

Fortunately, the receiving of radio signals on an aircraft is not entirely without advantage. The antenna and ground arrangement is probably far more effective than at any ground station. There are no absorbing mediums such as trees, buildings, etc. The antenna has maximum signal pickup. The excellent efficiency keeps the noise to signal ratio within the bounds of operation. It must be stressed, however, that to retain the advantage of the effective surface antenna system the receiver must be of correct design.

#### Static Not a Problem

A second happy circumstance is that "static" or atmospheric disturbance of an electrical nature is not a problem. The high noise level on an airplane which necessitates a very loud signal for audibility prevents normal static from being heard. Only in the event of a severe thunderstorm in the immediate vicinity is it possible to hear static of static. These bursts are of random duration and do not interfere seriously with signals. Thunderstorms are usually small in extent and the interference from any one will be for a very short period. At no time is the intensity of the static noise so severe as to entirely prevent operation of the radio receiver on the plane. In severe cases of working with radio on aircraft during hours of flight the antenna has been hampered once by static. At that time the airplane was flying through an exceptionally severe tropical thunderstorm. This interference lasted for about twenty minutes and was caused by a constant spray of lightning flashes close to the plane broadcast by the plane.

So, the cooperation of airplane and engine builders with the radio expert has greatly improved radio operation on an aircraft, and at the same time made the craft more safe and reliable. Further, the airplane has special advantages for radio work. High performance must be built into the radio equipment and only the economy in space and weight can also be taken the favorable conditions which make possible good radio work despite adverse noise.

A third article by Mr. Hyland will appear in an early issue of AVIATION.

### Pittsairn "Mailwings" for C.A.T.

COLONIAL AIR Transport, Inc., operating the air route between New York and Boston has just added to its equipment two Pittsairn "Mailwings". These planes are of the open cockpit type, with closed compartments for mail, passengers, and powered with Wright 2-6-C engines, have a top speed of 135 m.p.h., a cruising speed at 1650 r.p.m. of 105 m.p.h. and a landing speed of between 42 and 45 m.p.h. They are considered ideal for daytime night operations over the New York-Boston route. They are equipped with every device for all night flying.

### Texas Air-King Co. Formed

THE TEXAS Air-King Co. has been formed to act as general distributing agents for Air-King airplanes manufactured by National Airways System, Los Angeles. A. D. Macomber, chief test pilot for the Texas company is a well known and popular flier from the Lone Star state. He succeeds the place of his own company, Air-King for the entire state of Texas. Headquarters will be established at Love Field, Dallas, Texas.

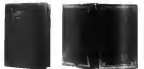
### Clubs Form Aviation Committee

AT AN organization meeting, with thirty members held recently in Pittsburgh, Pa., of the Aviation Committee representing the ten leading luncheon clubs of that city, the following officers of the "Joint Luncheon Clubs Aviation Committee" were elected by the members present: Chairman, William H. Rodgers, Kinross Club; Vice Chair, E. J. McLaughlin, Kinross Club; Secretary, Ray A. Tucker, American Club.

The Executive Committee is composed of one member representing each of the ten clubs, as follows: John J. Ferry, Aero Club; Samuel Harper, American Business Club; Robert A. Landless, City Club; H. G. American Legion; J. M. Lewis, Co-Operative Club; A. G. Franklin, Kinross Club; J. A. Phillips, Leno Club; C. Verne Shop, Madison Club; Guy M. Williams, Monarch Club; E. A. McMillan, Optimist Club; and Thomas A. Dunn, Rotary Club.

This organization has been formulated to assist in securing Allegheny County for possible sites for a new large airport for Pittsburgh, and to stimulate and assist interest in the membership of each club towards this end. The results of the survey will be turned over to the recently appointed Airport Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, headed by Arthur E. Brown, president, Farmers Deposit & Trust Bank. The study will be divided up into five districts and each Luncheon Club will be assigned a district to cover.

#### For the Passengers



The above are photographic reproductions of the Pittsairn mailer which holders that are presented in all parts are available on the Atlantic S.A.V.A. surface that is operated. Former Pittsairn mailer between Boston, New York, and Pittsburgh. The mailer on the left is for mail passengers and may be used as a full holder when the ticket has been used. The pocket back on the right for letter to be hand mail holder and makes an attractive enclosure of the aerial plane.

### New Waco Distributor Appointed

THE ADVANCE Aircraft Co. of Troy, O., announced that it has appointed The Northern Airways, Inc., of Waco, Wis., as Wisconsin and Minnesota distributor. John F. Wood, president of The Northern Airways, Inc., is a well known leader of many years standing.

The company also states that a complete line of new organization, field, hangar, etc., are now available at Waco for all Waco dealers, owners, and visiting pilots. The Northern Airways, Inc., is now in the process of making plans for delivery throughout the balance of 1937 and the first six months of 1938.

# The "Ajax" and "Atlas" Engines

## Two Cycle Engines Developing 80 and 120 Horsepower



The "Ajax" 80 hp engine

THE AIRCRAFT Holding Corp. of Los Angeles, Calif., recently completed a number of engine tests and has announced production on two cycle, air cooled, radial, small engines. The engines, which are supercharged, are produced in two sizes, the "Atlas" of eight cylinders developing 120 hp and weighing 360 lb and the "Ajax" with six cylinders developing 80 hp. The Ajax is with in the same of production having been developed from the larger and engine.

The manufacturer states that these two sizes were developed after a survey of many operators and manufacturers who expressed the need for a moderate priced power plant for low powered light planes. Before construction was started on the 120 hp, was the feasibility of a two cycle, two

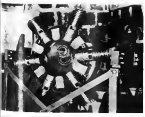
stroke engine equipped with a supercharger was doubtful, so for development purposes two 25 hp. engines were built. The supercharger was built with two large gears and operated as a supercharger to the engine. This gear type supercharger was replaced by a four vane constant velocity supercharger built into the next experimental model as part of the engine. This was an engine of 70 hp. which later led to the design of a still further improved model of 80 hp. The 70 hp. engine was later used to determine the effects of various new features and changes before incorporating them in the design of the "Atlas" 120 hp engine.

The 120 hp. Atlas engine has eight radial cylinders, and complete with its supercharger, weighs 360 lb. A second cylinder in its known as the "Ajax" developing 80 hp. is now being developed. As the Atlas engine operates on the two stroke cycle there are eight power strokes per revolution. There is a cross stroke every four a piston runs to the head of the cylinder and then there are eight power strokes per revolution or the number obtained is one revolution of a 16 cylinder four cycle engine.

#### Starvation Characteristic Eliminated

The cylinders are of alloy steel forgings turned from the solid with head and rim integral. The exhaust ports are cut in large being placed at the bottom of the stroke on diametrically opposite sides of the cylinder. By having two defuelers on the piston head the exhaust ports are prevented from mixing with the intake charge. The incoming gases are well distributed by entering the cylinder at the bottom of the stroke on diametrically opposite sides intake pressure. It is claimed that the double system of intake and exhaust creates a high turbulence effect with consequently better flame propagation during the explosion. It is also said to eliminate the "starvation characteristic" of previous two stroke engines with only one intake position and one defueler which usually left the opposite side of the cylinder with a pocket of unburned gas.

The engine has a small overall diameter due to the absence of valves and valve mechanism. The two stroke engine has



Shows with lighter beam of the 80 hp. "Ajax" engine. The light shows the light chamber and fixed with small tubes.

less moving parts than the four stroke engine in aviation use. There are no valves and the only gear used is the one which operates the accessory drive. The supercharger is of the positive pressure type running at engine speed. The motor is driven directly from the crankshaft and the mixture is supplied in the manifold under a variable pressure. The pressure varies from 3.5 to 10 lb. per sq. in. This is very useful to compensate for changes in atmospheric pressure or loss of power at altitude. It is stated by the manufacturer that the engine holds up pressure even at starting speeds rather than requiring a considerable lapse of time to build up pressure as in some of the high speed turbine types. The supercharger seals the mixture from the carburetor and forms it into the manifold.

A force feed lubrication system is used, the oil is forced by a triple outlet pump, one outlet forcing oil to the main and connecting rod bearings, another to a spray in the crank

## Test Landing Made on East River

PROVING THE feasibility of using the East River, New York City, as an airport, Assistant Secretary of War, Harford MacNider, landed recently in a Landing Amphibian at the dock at the foot of 33rd St. and East River. Mr. MacNider was piloted down Washington to Midway Field, Capt. Joe Eklund, in 1 hr. 45 min., and the amphibian then took off the lead field and was flown to the East River in 10 min., then sailing about an hour over the town that would have taken to drive in, or take a train from Midway Field to the heart of New York City.

Despite gusty wind conditions and adverse tide, there was no difficulty in bringing the amphibian to an easy landing at the Landing dock. The East River has been recommended for an airport site for amphibians and airplanes, and Assistant Secretary MacNider is the first government official to test the practicability of the movement.

## Close Contract for 75 Wasos

THE ADVANCE Aircraft Co., of Troy, O., reports that it has closed a 75 plane contract with E. M. House, Buffalo Airport, Buffalo, N. Y., covering the western section of New York state and the northern boundary counties of the state of Pennsylvania. Mr. House will take planes throughout the winter months for sale and storage and has spring delivery schedule in hand.

All Wasco distributors are well able to take care of all planes the company can produce throughout the winter months and early spring. The Advance Aircraft Co. also states that it will continue its five per day schedule and increase it as fast as possible.

## Warning to Airmen

WORD HAS been received from the Standard Oil Company of California that at various places in southern California and the San Joaquin Valley there have been installed systems of lightning protection over oil reservoirs, consisting of numerous rods as high as 125 ft. These are very slender and where visibility is poor are difficult to see. Therefore caution should be observed when flying in the vicinity of oil reservoirs.

Caution should be observed, especially in landing at Midway Field, California, field. There are 45 lightning rods, usually north of the airport and 30 others in a narrow arc one mile to the northeast.



A layout display of the principal working parts of the 80 hp 'A' type engine.

one and the third to the supercharger. This last causes the incoming mixture to be retarded with oil before entering the cylinders. This eliminates the problem of working with the gaslines, as in some two cycle engines, and then fill up the jets of the carburetors.

The specifications of the Atlas engine as stated by the manufacturer are as follows:

Displacement ..... 775 cc.  
Bore ..... 4 1/8 in.  
Stroke ..... 4 1/8 in.  
Full stroke ..... 5 in.  
Compression ratio ..... 5.2 to 1  
Borepower ..... 320 hp at 1250 r.p.m.  
Fuel consumption ..... 52 gals. per hp-hr.

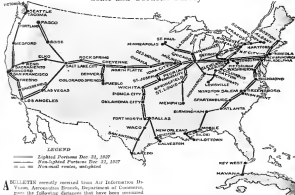
## On Parade for Royalty



A line up of 500 planes at Fieschi di Italia, Italy, that were supported by the Majesty King Victor Emmanuel III. Duke Balbo, under-secretary for aviation, and General Armand, minister of aviation, took a series of aerial maneuvers executed in their honor.

# Mileage Statistics on Airways

Bulletin Gives Map Measurements by Coast and Geodetic Survey



A BULLETIN recently received from Air Information Division, Aeronautics Branch, Department of Commerce, gives the following distances that have been measured by the Coast and Geodetic Survey.

"Mileage from airport to airport following the route of the airway, as arranged for day and night flying.

"Mileage from airport to airport following the airway as arranged for day flying.

"Air line mileage between airports.

"All other distances are air line, under to center of cities or to the case of a route, the mileage may be the measurement of the route. All distances are subject to change as airway facilities are installed.

"Chicago (Center)-New York ..... 702 mi.  
"Chicago (Center)-Cleveland ..... 304 mi.  
"Chicago (Center)-St. Louis ..... 220 mi.  
"Chicago (Center)-St. Paul ..... 174 mi.  
"Chicago (Center)-St. Paul ..... 174 mi.

"San Francisco-Chicago (Center) ..... 1,540 mi.  
"San Francisco-San Antonio ..... 900 mi.  
"San Antonio-San Antonio ..... 300 mi.  
"San Antonio-San Antonio ..... 300 mi.  
"San Antonio-San Antonio ..... 300 mi.  
"San Antonio-San Antonio ..... 300 mi.  
"San Antonio-San Antonio ..... 300 mi.  
"San Antonio-San Antonio ..... 300 mi.

"Chicago-North Platte ..... 216 mi.  
"North Platte-Grand Forks ..... 251 mi.  
"Grand Forks-Moline ..... 125 mi.  
"Moline-Des Moines ..... 100 mi.  
"Des Moines-Des Moines ..... 156 mi.

"New York-Boston ..... 209 mi.  
"Boston-Fairfield ..... 124 mi.  
"Fairfield-Boston ..... 90 mi.

"St. Louis-Chicago (Center) ..... 200 mi.  
"St. Louis-Springfield ..... 81 mi.  
"Springfield-Fresno ..... 45 mi.  
"Fresno-Chicago (Center) ..... 232 mi.

"Dallas-Chicago ..... 900 mi.  
"Dallas-Fort Worth ..... 90 mi.  
"Ft. Worth-Oklahoma City ..... 150 mi.  
"Oklahoma City-Fresno ..... 80 mi.  
"Fresno-Chicago ..... 232 mi.  
"Fresno-Kansas City ..... 173 mi.







I. R. Gates and C. H. Day Form  
New Aeronautical Corporation

**ANNOUNCEMENT** HAS been made of the formation of the Golden-Day Aircraft Corp. with offices at 300 Madison Avenue, New York City. The corporation is headed by Irvin E. Gates as president and Charles Henry Day as vice-president and is capitalized at \$500,000. M. J. Finkelnstein has been retained to serve as the legal staff of the corporation.



*Irma N. Gates, president of the Gates Day Aircraft Corp.*

The engine was both designed and built by Mr. Day. In 1943, in collaboration with Glenn Martin, he designed and built the model TT Martin training plane which was one of the first sold in quantity to the United States government. The engine designed and constructed the second airplane ever to complete a loop. The plane was flown by Delbert Thompson, known as one of the first "war daredevils". The achievement was of note at the time for several reasons. Thompson and London Beachley turned their planes over, headfirst within a few hours of each other. It was generally believed that no airplane was strong enough to stand the maneuver.



Charles H. Day, vice-president of the  
Coca-Cola Bottling Corp.

Mr. Gates also has a respectable record having commercial and exhibition aviation as an experimenter motor in 1909 at Los Angeles. He purchased an early primitive type of a biplane, learned to fly and then automobile accident, was so severely injured that he failed to leave the business for many months.

While still at the hospital he obtained the services of Mamon, the French pilot who came to Dien Bien Phu on the previous days with Louis Fuchien, a flying ace in 1960, while still an aviator, he made an expedition as a promoter with Mamon. He later admitted a few assets throughout the country. He has the singular record of having staged more than 2,000 suicides in 43 states in more than 1,500 cities. He has arranged and assisted at the flying exhibitions for the United States Army to provide a good quality flying school, and he has been flying since opening a flying school. At the present time he is operating three flying schools in the eastern, western of the country.

The new organization rejoins the peripherals, though, as in actual design, the Standard places. Although the bulk of the 3-4 models were produced in 1917 and 1918 it is claimed that there are more in service today than at any one time.

Present production plans of the new corporation are for the construction of machines powered air-cooled radial engines for all types of airplanes, small, popular powered sport planes, a conventional type cabin monoplane with a "super-flap" wing just designed, and an all-purpose commercial plane, designed to be used for trucking work, carrying of freight, mail and passengers, as well as for exhibition work.

### Earle H. Reynolds to Succeed Howard Coffin as N.A.T. Head

**A**NNOUNCEMENT WAS made in Chicago recently of the election of Earl H. Reynolds of Chicago as president of National Air Transport, Inc., in place of Howard E. Coffin, the retiring president.

Mr. Raynolds is president of the Peoples Trust & Savings Bank of Chicago and is the son of George M. Raynolds, chairman of the board of the Continental and Commercial National Bank. He has been a director in National Air Transport Inc. since its organization in 1935.

Mr. Coffin has been president of the company since its organization. During his term of office, National Air Transport has grown from a 2,000 mile a day flying organization to one now operating 5,000 miles each twenty-four hours. He has flown about approximately one and one-half million miles without any serious accident, without injury to personnel, or a loss of any cargo. Mr. Coffin will release an extra invoice in the N.A.T.

## Solitdorf President Goes Abroad

**WALTER HAUTENTRACHE**, president of Spalding Bros. Radio Co., is expected to arrive in the city next month for the purpose of making a tour of the country. He will deliver a series of lectures on the subject of radio and will discuss the various problems connected with the industry. He will also visit the various radio stations and will discuss the various problems connected with the industry. He will also visit the various radio stations and will discuss the various problems connected with the industry.

### Blaw-Knox Co., Constructs Hangar At Winston-Salem in Fast Time

**A**RGENTINE leader from the Blue House, Gov. Pittsburg, Pa., as a moment of what may be a special record in his reaction. The hunger was evoked on the Miller line, the airport at Winston-Salem, N. C. Speed was necessary to return to this hunger because Winston-Salem was to be a colored leadership only in Graham and at the best a few, the library of his tower was accompanied, that city had an established airport much less a hunger and a moment.

By : Letter part of August a note for an airport had been  
done : On Aug. 30, an order for a building that would  
was : a hangar was long distance telephoned to the Miami



Next morning Col. and Lindbergh's arrival at Plimoth  
Salem, N. C.

He states the complete building was shipped. Erection was started on Sept. 28 and on Oct. 13, the building was complete, including the placing of the roof, and was ready for occupancy. The building is a single-story structure, with a steel deck to the floor joists, and floor joists are spaced at 24 in. on center. The building is 20 ft. wide and 24 ft. deep, and is erected in almost level time only eight workmen were used. The language of the frame covered with sheet steel. It is made from standard channels that make good delivery and rapid erection possible. This building is of the type recommended by the Lewisville Research of the Department of Commerce for major construction. One of the features that they state is that it is the type of building that can be ordered in place and delivered in the low price, and delivered in sections.

### Civil Service Examinations

THE UNITED STATES Civil Service Commission announces:  
 (1) following competitive examinations: ASSOCIATE  
 AERONAUTICAL ENGINEER, ASSISTANT AERONAUTICAL  
 ENGINEER.

Applicants for these positions must be on file with the Civil Service Commission at Washington, D. C., not later than Dec. 1. The commissions are to fill vacancies in various branches of the service throughout the United States. A first-class three is a vacancy in the position of associate architect-engineer in the Naval Aircraft Factory at Philadelphia, Pa.

In the Departmental Service at Washington, D. C., the entrance salary for associate aeronautical engineer is \$2,500 per year, and for assistant aeronautical engineer \$2,600 a year. In the Field Service of the Navy Department the salary \$2,200 to \$3,182 a day for associate engineers, and \$2,700 to \$3,682 a day for assistant engineers. The entrance salary would, at the minimum rate of the salary range for the

where, but appointment may be made above the minimum rate if the qualifications of the appointee and the duty to which assigned justify it.

The dates listed are in connection with original research or investigation of design and construction, or mechanical engineering. Competitors will not be required to report the realization at any place, but will be rated on their education, training and experience. Full information may be obtained from the United States Civil Service Commission at Washington, D. C., or the secretary of the United States civil service board of examiners at the post office or postoffice annex city.

### Pitcairn Aviation, Inc., Makes Lowest Bid on Air Mail Line

**THE FITZGERALD** Aviation, Inc., of Philadelphia, Pa., was the lowest of three bidders for the operation of an air mail route from Atlanta, Ga., via Jacksonville to Miami, Fla. and return, bids for which were opened at the Post Office Department recently. The concern agreed to carry the mail over this proposed route for \$146 a pound. Provision was also made under the terms of the contract to supply Tampa, Fla., with a feeder route, if necessary.

The two other bids received were from the Southern Transport Aviation Company, of Miami, Fla., at \$174 a pound and the Southeastern Air Lines, Inc., of Jacksonville, Fla., at \$1.55 a pound.

First Curtiss "Hawk" With "Wasp" Engine is Delivered to Air Corp.

**THE FIRST** of an experimental order of Curtiss "Hawks" with the Pratt & Whitney "Wasp" engines was recently delivered to the Air Corps by the Curtiss Company. After eight trips to Mitchel Field, it was flown to Wright Field by Lieut. J. T. Hutchinson. This type of machine, which is standard P-12 "Hawk" with the "Wasp" engine substituted



A Curtiss "Hawk" powered with a Pratt & Whitney "Wasp" engine sits on the ground.

for the D-Ed, is almost identical with the FSC-4 type "Black" which has been purchased in considerable quantities by the Navy as a shipboard plane.



## PUBLISHER'S NEWS LETTER

Congress convenes on the same day as this issue is dated. And it is pleasant to be able to greet the morning Seventieth Congress with a feeling of confidence that it will be "as usual" to a degree almost bordering on enthusiasm, if such an emotion can ever be ascribed to those who have the power of appropriating money. As a matter of fact, Congress has always received the little credit for the part it has played in the advancement of aviation in this country. Sometimes the Executive Branch of the government, with its experienced and well organized publicity bureau, has always been all the praise and shifted the blame on the legislative bodies. All of which has been very unjust, even when understood. But Congress seems to be unpopular with the mass of people, probably because there is so much talk and so little done that meets with unqualified approval. A forum that is a continuous hot-bed of ground, where victors are gained also bitter verbal contests is never apt to be exactly popular. But when the post is considered dispassionately and due allowance made for a cumbersome procedure, the history of Congressional support of aviation is worthy of much praise which has seldom been expressed.

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From the earliest days of the Wrights and Langley, both houses of Congress have listened patiently and usually sympathetically to the optimistic claims of the enthusiasts in the new art of flying. Before the War, while appropriations were small, they were likewise given without much hope of practical return. When the War broke on us, Congress responded to the urgent cries from aviators for greater aid powers with its largest single sum ever appropriated for any purpose. And this was done without even a debate. After the War the situation became so involved that hardly anyone could predict with any degree of certainty just how far progress in aviation would go. But in spite of the constant hesitations of war were progress by an industrious group of disgruntled and disappointed visionaries, Congress gave the money precisely every cent that was asked. But while this was going on efforts of the aviators were likewise Congress is justified as they could for the deficiencies of the aeronautical program. At the same time money was being returned to the Treasury out of appropriations unused because the aviators did not know how to use all they were given. What is especially lamented is that every year's appropriations since the post war de-

flation have been steadily increasing in spite of the tendency to reduce armaments and curtail the Army and Navy. All of which should be clearly understood by the thousands of newcomers to the aviation field who have probably been misled by the newspaper that always publish attacks and most display but the details if ever published are not regarded as interesting news and are printed unceremoniously.

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Another way in which Congress has assisted aeronautical development has been a securing of information through hearings before the Senate and investigations. Notwithstanding the extreme secrecy with which some governmental officials surround their work, whenever a Senator or a Congressman asks for some information, particularly as hearings, these same officials agreed on the record not only what is asked for but much other information that is apparently intended to impress Congress with the activity of the person concerned. This has provided a record of government action which for completeness is unqualified. The investigation have done little more than present a great deal of subject gas to escape except as they have provided a very complete record as to down under a more hostile mood of questioning than is customary at committee hearings. Investigations seldom clarify a situation as a result of those held by Congress, little of a constructive nature has been accomplished.

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The coming Congress faces a clear road, comparatively unclouded, and yet year was the first during which the Five Year Program was considered. This year the work as well known will only have to be extended under the suggestions of the President and Director of the Budget. The general impression is that Congress will appropriate all that is asked for by the various departments concerned with the use of aircraft. If this is true the situation will be very much like the general industrial condition in the country at large. Everyone appears to be happy, factories are working on paid orders, both governmental and civil, airports are being built, so fact prosperity seems to be the only word to apply to the aeronautical field. The best policy, particularly viewed by those who have been through the depressing past, is perhaps best indicated by an adaptation of the expression "don't rock the boat" into an aeronautical expression "don't stall, keep your eye on the horizon".

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## Side Slips

By ROBERT D. CHURCH

Mr. H. M. H. sends in a clipping from a newspaper magazine story he has been reading, asking for an explanation of the mistaken parties—

Well, referring to the plane that is to land tomorrow the other morning, Lady was filled with excitement as its pilot climbed out, leaving the propeller turning over, and walked to the side of the airplane where two German officers were waiting for him. "Hello!" he had almost partly yet to go when they saw him. Standing to him and jerking fingers out of his hands, the Germans rushed after Lady as on a last flying leap he dove into the cockpit of the airplane. "Presumably he jumped for the open door, found it, and returned to us."

We are sorry we can't offer any explanation to H. M. H. in his way it should be necessary to "guess" an opinion which when the propeller is already turning over, but we can testify that the condition is not impossible with some aviation. With our own Antiques Coupe, two landings, the motor often runs for half an hour after we've turned the switch off.

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Speaking of the airplane which has been written of in the Avion for good weather for the trip to the mainland, a newspaper article says, "The plane left Nuremberg, Germany, October 4, to fly to the United States as a demonstration of the possibility of trans-Atlantic flying." We'd say the flight had at least demonstrated the necessity of showing step-by-step problems as all before.

### ADVERTISERS

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# AIRPORTS AND AIRWAYS

Kokomo, Ind.  
By Harold M. Barnes

The Flying Farmer Air Circus, commanded by Clyde E. Shindler, manager of Shindler Flying Field, Kokomo, Ind., recently completed a two months tour of Ohio and Indiana. The circus was a success from every standpoint. The pilots were Clyde Shindler, flying a Stearman, "Red" McVay, of Fort Wayne, flying a Waco B, and O. L. Corbitt of Huntington, flying a Waco D. The mechanics were Harold Darnes, Van Wert and McKeasick. These Work at Fort Wayne were the stunt men. At the various cities which were visited, the circus was always in action. The crowds were estimated at two to three thousand during the week days and five to eight thousand on Sundays. Gene Roth was reported constantly to repeat his usual statement, which consisted of a single remarkable story, followed by a double parachute drop. These also performed on a lounge being on the landing gear of the Stearman. This act consisted of hanging by both hands, by one hand, by one knee, by both knees and by both feet. In conclusion to each day's act, he walked the wings while the plane flew at high speeds. The "Flying Farmer" each afternoon took the Stearman up 3000 ft., cut the switch and proceeded to make a dead stick landing in within a few feet of a designated spot. This act was for the purpose of showing the public that one would not crash although the

engine was dead. This act not encouraged the people as to the safety of flying, resulting in an increase of passengers carrying "Red" McVay over an exhibition in Los Angeles, showing the spectators the elementary maneuvers, a "loop" in flight while undergoing instruction at a field about fifteen miles from the circus, and a "loop" in flight at a purpose. One of the main objects of the circus was to stimulate interest in commercial flying and to give the public a better idea of the latest air modern commercial airplane. The crowds were permitted to inspect the planes during the mornings.

Santa Monica, Calif.  
By George L. Gager

Frank Baker, son of the president of one of the Pacific Coast's largest shoe companies, approaching the Baker Airport, in Culver City, near Venice, and Jack King, a Los Angeles aviation enthusiast, brought a Waco D from the factory at Troy, Ohio, to the Culver City Field, Baker being Waco agent for Los Angeles County and King being the purchaser of the machine. The two proceeded to the factory by train and, en route home via air, worked airports along the way, having a wonderful trip, according to both.

A. L. Ashman, Santa Monica Bay district manager for the Pacific Development Corporation, conducted an air expedition

to the Paul Pioneer Press near Phoenix, Ariz., three planes with 100 passengers each, making the expedition west. The same day the Salt River Valley and one of the largest privately owned enterprises in the country, looking for water, had 40,000 acres. By using airplanes, Mr. Ashman and his associates were able to make the trip over the water.

The "Last Fokker," "Southern Cross," being prepared for a flight from Oakland, Calif., to New Zealand, has been visiting Coast Field, making the journey from San Diego to Southern California in its pursuit. The Douglas Company's engine experts in 1914 and a gasoline carrying capacity of 1200 gal., in a plane of Capt. Kingsford Smith, Australian war ace.

The trip-off, although not definitely set, will be made sometime during the early part of the month and the first jump will be to Honolulu, then to Suva, in the Fiji Islands, and then the final leg of the 8000 mi. journey, most of it over water. It was also learned that the plane, after returning to Oakland, will attempt to break the endurance record on a test.

Captain Smith's crew, housed in a spacious and comfortable city, consists of Keith V. Anderson, 30-year-old, William A. Todd, navigator; George Ford, mechanic and Charles E. King, co-navigator. Because of the unusual size and cordial words of the "Southern Cross", a special landing gear is being built for attachment when the sets off over the Pacific.

Los Angeles, Calif.

By Charles F. McElroy

New takes planes have been arriving in Los Angeles with such speed and regularity of late, and new passenger airlines are being so rapidly resumed or projected that the local observer who seeks to keep pace with all the developments in the aviation industry hereabouts is somewhat the same as a man in a vaccination line by a three ring circus—in a city prepared.

The most spectacular return was that of Jack Hadden with the second Ford plane to reach the coast. Flown by Larry Fritz and carrying Mr. and Mrs. Jack Madison, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hicken, and Mr. and Mrs. Wanda Hickey, it arrived by the big three engine Ford product slipped quickly into Griffith Park Airport, north of town, at 5:40 P.M. exactly.

The next morning Larry Fritz took off with his plane empty, flew directly across the heart of Los Angeles in a run to the house just southwest of town, and gave a exhibition of the maneuverability of the machine as it set in a loop. After a series of figure eights, loops, skids, spins and vertical banks, with all the engines full on, showed everyone in Los Angeles how that the second Ford was a real crowd.

## Second Ford Plane in Service

The second Ford plane was placed in service on the Los Angeles San Diego passenger run. It is now the first plane except that second of the series may be seen almost daily while the plane is in flight, and for this reason it is being referred to as an aerial "Pullman."

With the third Ford plane arrives, Jack Hadden is planning a coasting trip over the route of his proposed Los Angeles El Paso line. The original plane to be placed in service here is now being used as a demonstrator and is in use, and for long night seeing trips.

When the all-metal Ford plane created a great stir upon arrival, it was presented to the coast by the third Ford (United) monoplane to be brought here by the Aero Corporation of California, flown by Jack Frye, president, and also

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Rochester, Ill., and Madison, Wis., Saturday, June 2, 1932.

Arrivants here last night to Clarence D. Gibson, Ill., and President. This morning he will visit Milwaukee while on a tour of the Great Lakes region.

Aviation interests in Wisconsin have asked for this compensation insurance coverage, for the Wisconsin compensation law requires that any person having these 100 men employed at any time during the year must carry insurance to protect the state.

The increasing number of corporations which have been forced to engage in commercial aviation has made it imperative that rates be established. The Wisconsin compensation law, which has not made a rate for such corporations in Wisconsin and where compensation insurance has been written it has been an arbitrary rate of 50 cents a pilot.

The bureau has received information from the national advisory bureau on three suggested classifications, in all of which the rate is based on the amount of the payroll. About 100,000, Milwaukee airport authorities, has advised the Wisconsin bureau to build up adopting these classifications or making rates of any sort will be no get expression from commercial aviation concerns and insurance companies who will take the insurance. Mr. Auer has written such suggestions asking them to make suggestions.

### Columbus, W. Va.

An intermediate landing field is being fitted up at Columbus, W. Va., with a large existing house light. Perhaps the regular stopping place between Milwaukee and St. Louis on Airways No. 9, but the Columbus field is being provided and equipped because early disclosure at this time of the post-war aviation market is necessary.

The Columbus field, which is T shaped, will probably be completed by Dec. 15. It will be entirely surrounded by mail lights, close to the ground, which will give a clear outline of the field at night. These outline lights will supplement the larger aviation house light which will be as a 50-foot tower and will be in continuous operation after dark.

Plans will be able to identify the field during the day by a large concrete marker, located in the center of the field. This will be painted a bright yellow, and its shape will indicate the direction and shape of the field, so that pilots can tell at a glance just where all the boundaries are. A long directional arrow, 65 ft. long, will also aid planes in making landings.

### Madison, Wis.

The Blackhawk Electric Company was recently awarded the contract for installing seven floodlights, one between light and 17 boundary lights on Potosi Field, Madison's temporary airport for the mail planes. The first power beyond the flood lights were also recently installed at the Madison airport.

Max H. Kischka, a German pilot, hopes to qualify within the next few weeks for a United States pilot license. Harold Mery, chief pilot of the Madison Airways Company, is supervising the solo flying being done by Kischka, the experienced pilot being a few hours solo flight. He is being supervised by a licensed American pilot. Although Mr. Kischka has done little flying since 1919 he has over 5,000 hours in the air to his credit.

### Wausau, Wis.

George Sorenson visited the Wausau Airport recently, arriving in the Standard Oil Company's plane, "Starliner." He will have the benefit of the new staff of the new airplane, steel and concrete hangar, which is being constructed at the post.

## UNITED STATES AIR FORCES

### Air Forces to Use Emergency Airdromes

It was on airplanes with the army will be forced to operate from emergency airdromes as well as from permanent ones equipped with extensive supply and maintenance installations. Including this, the War Department in a communication to army and department commanders, commanding in the emergency airdromes held in the vicinity of the Army, the War Department, in the manner, emphasizes the necessity to plan, in future maneuvers, in operations from emergency airdromes without any such supplies and personnel may be placed therein by means of the air and ground equipment assigned to the units involved. The use in part of permanent airdromes, has simplified air operations and tends to increase the feeling of security naturally connected with any maneuver. Although the utilization of emergency fields will no doubt reduce the existing high percentage of airdromes, which in one of the San Antonio maneuvers, was 85.5%, the experience of campaigns make such plans imperative.

In future exercises involving air and ground forces, greater attention will be given the protection of planes on these airdromes from hostile air attack. These protective measures will include the use of camouflage, and the covering of planes to take advantage of local shelter.

### Edgewood Arsenal to Have Beacon

The War Department has approved the request of the Army Ordnance Department to erect a type "A" Army Aviation Beacon at Edgewood Arsenal, Md. This beacon will consist of a fifty-foot tower, with a twenty-four inch red light, and a concrete arrow fifty feet long, pointing by twelve feet wide, back with the ground, to indicate with and south.

The installation and maintenance of the beacon will be a function of the Department of Commerce. Edgewood Arsenal is on the Great Washington New York route.

### To Cooperate with Department of Commerce

The War Department has completed arrangements for intensive cooperation to be given by the Army Air Corps with the work of the Aeronautics Branch of the Department of Commerce.

Arrangements have been made at the depot of the Air Corps at Fairfield, Ohio, to overhaul, adjust and install new devices, equipment in aircraft, and mail planes, and equipment, mostly taken over by the Department of Commerce from the Post Office Department. This work includes the installation of engine, starter, wheel brakes and remodeling of certain parts of the plane itself.

The War Department has assigned authority to the Department of Commerce to utilize the facilities for the repair of airplanes. The Air Corps has a parachute school at Fort V each of its larger stations throughout the United States. Some parachute may be suspended, drop tested and repaired. At Air Corps depots extensive facilities for the repair of parachutes are maintained.

It is to be facilitated the photographic work which the Department of Commerce is doing in connection with its efforts to build up various aids to aerial navigation, arrangements have been made whereby the Army Air Corps will be able to utilize the facilities for the development and painting of maps and for the adjustment and repair of aerial cameras.

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